PREE PRESS Approved For Release 2005/01/05 : CIA-RDP 3 00149R000700480050-16 Cuba

Circ.: m. 5498,912

ront Edit & Other Page Page Page

Dates P. K. J. J. Styl

X Gy & X Perox M D TAYLO X Perox 1 & a. LAHE

PRESIDENT'S ACTIONS INDICATE:

Gen. Taylor Busy PlanningFast Overthrov of Castro

BY EDWIN A. LAHEY AND DAVID KRASLOW.

WASHINGTON — One stark truth looms out of the Cuban debris, like a smokestack still standing after a factory explosion:

The United States is committed irrevocably to the overthrow of Fidel Castro.

The wheels are in motion, and will keep grinding until the mission is accomplished. There are four alternate plans, the first two of which are the most likely:

1—Another invasion of Cuba, by Cubans and possibly other Latin American volunteers, this time organized, trained, and equipped to leave no margin for error.

2—Collective action by member nations of the Organization of American States, if two-thirds of the 21 republics support this plan. If some balk, the United States may take the assistance of whatever friends will stand up and be counted, and let the O.A.S. suffer disruption.

The remaining alternatives are remote:

3—A propaganda campaign in Cuba of greater intensity, geared to the hope that Castro can be overthrown by his own people.

4.—Direct intervention by United States military forces, on their own.

commitment to destroy Castro was made surreptitiously many months ago. We made that decision when it became apparent that Castro had granted a concession to the international Communist movement to use Cuba as a base for infecting all of Latin America.

We made our purpose known publicly, in an agonizing burst of honesty, after John F. Kennedy for the first time in his 48 years felt the acrid taste of complete and humiliating defeat.

The taste was bitter, All the Kennedys play to win, whether the game is parehest or the balance of terror in a world armed for destruction.

The President spent no time in handwringing on that fateful night of April 18, while he digested the fact that the invasion of Cuba, launched by Cuban exiles with the help of our Central Intelligence Agency had been a colossal failure.

Approved For Balesis an 2005/8-408p. OIA
John Kennedy's wall for the
whole world to see.

ON THURSDAY, April 20, the President publicly removed some of the vell of hypotrisy that had marked our program to topple Castro.

He told the American Society of Newspaper Editors and the waiting world, that if the honored tradition of "non-intervention" meant that we had to stand by while the Soviet Union set up shop across the Florida straits we would toss that tradition out the window, in the hame of self-preservation.

IN THE LIGHT of Presi-

dent Kennedy's frank discussion of our objective, there is only one logical interpretation of his decision to recall Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, former chief of staff, from retirement. for a study of "para-military" matters.

General Taylor, who has been joined in this study by Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, is clearly the architect for an invasion of Cuba that will not fail.

WHILE THE doom of Castro is being planned, the sport of recrimination over the recent Cuban flasco con-

tinues unabated.

The preparations for the invasion of Cuba had begun last summer, when Mr. Kensedy, then a cadidate for President; was jibing at Richard Nixon with such cutting femarks as:

"If you can't stand up to Castro, how can you expect to stand up to Khrushchev?"

But the hour of decision fiially came to the President himself a few weeks ago, when he had to weigh all the opinions of Allen Dulles of the Central Intelligence Agency, Secretary of State Rusk, Secratary of Defense McNamara, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

HIS DECISION to let the invasion of Cuba get under way was based on three major considerations:

1—The Cuban invasion force was getting restless. Somewhere between 1,000 and 1,500 men, recruited by the C.I.A. in Florida and elsewhere had been training without pay in Guatemals for many months. They might have come emotionally unstuck if the invasion were delayed.

2—A delay in the invasion plans would get fouled up by the approaching rainy season.

1-Pinally, and most im-

RDP75-00149R000700480050-1

contid